

The Punta Gorda Herald

VOLUME XXII.—NUMBER 6.

PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1914.

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.50 A YEAR.

SEA HORROR LAID TO THE NANTUCKET

Libel for \$1,000,000 Dam- age Filed

PAPER SERVED ON OFFICIALS

In Libel Proceedings It Is Charged
That Nantucket Was Proceeding at
Two High Rate of Speed in Fog.

Declaring the sinking of his vessel was due to the negligence and carelessness of those in command of the steamer Nantucket, Captain E. E. Johnson, commanding the ill-fated steamer Monroe, filed a libel against the former vessel at Norfolk, Va. He claims \$1,000,000 damage. The libel was filed in the United States district court at this point and served on officials of the Merchants and Miners' Transportation company at Norfolk and Baltimore. Nineteen passengers and twenty-two seamen perished in the accident.

Captain Johnson alleges that the Monroe was proceeding at half speed or less before the accident and had laid to after hearing fog whistles.

He says the Nantucket came upon him at such speed that a collision was unavoidable although he had ordered his ship ahead at full speed to avoid the on-rushing bow of the Merchants and Miners' steamer.

Wireless Operator E. L. Etheredge, of the Monroe, declared that the lone boat launched from the Monroe saved twenty-eight lives at one time and went back for a second trip.

GIRL LOST FOR YEAR.

Father Spends Thousands Searching
For Daughter.

Dr. W. A. Winters, a prominent physician of Newcastle, Ind., arrived at Little Rock, Ark., from Perry, Ark., after a fruitless search for his daughter, Catherine Winters, who disappeared from the Indiana city while on her way home March 20 last, and was supposed to have been kidnapped by spies.

A few days ago Dr. Winters received word that a girl resembling his daughter had been left with a family in Perry, Ark., by an unidentified man. He left at once for Perry.

The girl, although greatly resembling Miss Winters, was declared by the father not to be his daughter.

Since her disappearance Dr. Winters and the city of Newcastle have spent several thousands of dollars in a search for the missing girl.

HONORS FOR GOETHALS.

His Work With Spade Wins Canal
Zone Scepter.

President Wilson sent the nomination of Col. George W. Goethals to be governor of the Panama canal zone after April 1 to the senate.

Secretary Garrison announced that Col. George W. Goethals had signified his intention of accepting the governorship of the Panama canal zone. Mr. Garrison intimated that Colonel Goethals' acceptance was unqualified.

"I am not able to give out the terms of Colonel Goethals' acceptance at the present time," said Secretary Garrison, "but it was whole and complete."

As chairman of the Isthmian canal commission Col. Goethals now is paid \$15,000 a year. The Panama canal act fixes the salary of the governor at \$10,000. Representative Britten of Illinois, introduced a bill to amend the law to make the salary of the governor \$15,000 so long as Colonel Goethals holds the office.

COTTON MILL MERGERS

Will Not Be Probed by South Carolina
Legislature.

After a brief debate the house killed a resolution requiring the attorney-general to institute suit to determine whether the merger of cotton mills and other corporations is in violation of the federal and state laws.

The resolution followed the lines suggested by Governor Bleuse in his last annual message, which renewed his recommendation for an investigation of cotton mill mergers.

The Parker Mill company, a \$13,000,000 merger of cotton manufacturing plants, recently took the final steps in its organization.

SHIP STORM TOSSED.

Crew Rescued From Waterlogged
Schooner in Gulf.

The British schooner, Skipton Castle, Captain Kelly, reached the port of Jacksonville with Capt. O. R. Farrell and the crew of the shipwrecked schooner Joseph W. Hawthorn, which became waterlogged in the gale that swept the gulf January 21st. The Hawthorn was on its way from Savine to Tuxpan, Mexico, and was swept by a huge sea which completely waterlogged the little craft. Its load kept it afloat until the Skipton Castle hove in sight a day later. The seas were still high and the rescue was made with difficulty.

ROUND ABOUT FLORIDA.

Fire Chief Mathews is urging the
purchase of a fire boat for Tampa.

A land sale, involving about \$10,000, was recently consummated at Orlando.

The Jacksonville News, a daily started recently in that city, has ceased publication.

Two hundred and sixty-five homes in Jacksonville are now using electricity for cooking purposes.

It is announced that the Atlantic Coast Line will rebuild at once its export terminals' docks and warehouses recently burned at Jacksonville.

Preparations are being made for planting many more citrus fruit groves in the Brooksville section, mostly grapefruit.

Jacksonville officials have begun a war on buildings without fire escapes.

The Y. W. C. A. of Jacksonville has started a campaign to raise \$10,000. They are meeting with success.

The St. Augustine chamber of commerce has called a meeting to be held on February the 4th in order to secure the concerted support of all the cities interested in the future of the Coast Line canal.

The jury in the Hurst murder case returned a verdict of manslaughter at Ocala. The first trial, held three weeks ago, resulted in a mistrial. The defendant, John Hurst, killed Louis E. Boller last July. In both trials the defendant claimed he killed Boller in self-defense.

Additional entries are being received by Manager C. F. Hopkins, Jr., almost daily for the southern championship speed boat races to be held at St. Augustine during the first week of April.

Three thousand and seventy-six registrations have been made for the general primary which will take place in Jacksonville in June. Only one of the thirty-five districts in the county, No. 23, known as Arlington, has failed as yet to report.

A permit was issued in the office of the building commissioner at Jacksonville for a \$30,000 building to be erected by the Home Telephone company, now preparing for operations in that city. The building will be two stories high and will be built of concrete and brick.

President Foor has called a meeting of the chairmen of the committees appointed to date to serve the Confederate Reunion association at Jacksonville in the work of handling the reunion and to make all arrangements in advance of its coming. They will name their own committee men.

Orlando will soon have at its command \$100,000 to be used for street paving purposes. Proceedings are now in progress for the validation of the bond issue that is to make available this large sum, that in all probability will be spent in the larger part for brick in surfacing the various streets of the city.

Romance of the Air.

Mrs. Alfred H. Satterthwaite, of Philadelphia, has announced the engagement of her daughter, Ruth, to Harry N. Atwood, aviator. It is a romance of the air. While a student in boarding school in New England she became enamored of his sturdy form high in the atmosphere, and was taken on test flights. Atwood was divorced by his former wife in Reno last May.

She Routs Burglars With Shoes.

Her husband's revolver unloaded, Mrs. William C. Harrington, of Clinton, N. J., routed burglars who tried to break into her house by raining shoes on them. She proved a good shot.

TO DEVELOPE AVAITION

PENSACOLA CHOSEN.

Naval Aeronautical Station For the
Florida City.

Orders have been issued for the execution of plans which will give the navy department a comprehensive scheme for development in aviation. Congress will be asked to make an appropriation to put the plans into effect. They will provide the American navy with an aerial corps which will rank with the best in the world. The navy department's plans also include giving substantial financial assistance to American designers, by which it is hoped to stimulate interest in developing the science and to arouse further interest in the manufacturing end of the business. Henceforth, according to announcements made, the navy's aviators and all navy air-craft and appliances will be stationed at Pensacola, Fla., which has been selected as the best place for a permanent naval aeronautical station. The battleship Mississippi has been ordered to Pensacola and will be utilized by the fliers in experimental work.

JACKSONVILLE PROGRESS.

Building In City for 1914 Has Good
Prospect.

The building prospects for Jacksonville, Fla., during 1914 look particularly good.

Last year was the largest building year in the history of Jacksonville, and every indication is that this year will be even greater. For the past several years building has increased over the preceding year, and that with the fact that this month is greater than the same month last year, is the base for the statement of that city's prospects for this new year.

Permits have already been issued for many new residences, small buildings and for remodeling many structures. In 1913 two ten-story buildings were erected, and if this year is to surpass this record it will have to step lively. These are the views of the commissioner of the building department, and are based on good judgment.

NEGROES DROPPED.

Colored Inspectors at Pensacola Lose
Jobs.

Two negro customs inspectors, who have held office in the local force at Pensacola for years, have been requested to resign some time since, but had refused. They were let out by the abolishment of their office. This leaves two inspectors at Pensacola now, both of them white men. The orders for the abolishment of the offices came from state headquarters. These are the last of the colored men in the customs service at that place. Their names were Frank Washington and Vincent Stewart.

Dees Found Guilty.

Within fifteen minutes of the time the jury in the W. M. Dees case at Tampa, Fla., went out after listening to the charge of the judge it had returned with a verdict of guilty as charged and without any recommendation to the court. Dees is the man who was arrested on a charge preferred against him by his wife of mistreating his own daughter, a girl of less than ten years. The extreme penalty of the law in his case is hanging, but it is discretionary with the judge to inflict life imprisonment.

Hundreds Witness Execution of Black.

More than a thousand people at Gainesville, Fla., witnessed the public execution of Sam Hurd, a negro, sentenced to be hanged for the murder of W. H. Mahafney, an old negro farmer, on October 4, last year.

A. C. L. Man Kills Self.

Sherrod Warren, an employee of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad at High Springs, Fla., committed suicide at the passenger depot by sending a pistol ball through his head. No cause is given for the act.

Wives, mothers and sweethearts looked on while 300 men and boys took the cigarette "cure" before Recorder McGovern at Hoboken, N. J.

Made Him Too Good.

"So she married him to reform him. And what is the result?" "He's so good now that he's shocked by the gowns she wears."—Boston Transcript.

DYNAMITERS' WORK.

Building at West Tampa Blown Up—
Arrest Made.

For the second time within a month a building was blown up by dynamite at Tampa, Fla., when the grocery store of P. Avalica was sent skyward in West Tampa. Ciuilo Carlo and Biglio Giuseppe were arrested by Marshal Logan in connection therewith.

The store was blown to atoms and many surrounding buildings badly damaged.

A cottage opposite was almost demolished and windows were broken half a mile away.

Both this explosion and one at Ybor City recently are believed to have been brought about through the strike among the grocery men's drivers and clerks.

The damage will be about \$6,000.

GENERAL, SOUTHERN, FOREIGN.

A plot to assassinate Enver Bey, Turkish minister of war, was discovered at Constantinople. Eight army officers were arrested.

Paul de Roulde, French patriot, writer and politician, died at Nice after a short illness at the age of 68 years.

When three men at Chicago were arrested for holding up John Skolaski, it was found that the only loot they obtained was a pocket Bible.

Miss Margaret Connelly and Miss Laura Fitzgerald, teachers of Goshen, N. Y., on their way to catch an early train, met a bear. They scared him away with pocket flashlights they carried.

Frank France spent four hours tunneling under the wall of a drug store, Chicago, filled his pockets with confectionery and \$200 from the cash drawer, and crawled out into the arms of a policeman who had been watching him.

A cablegram received from Shanghai, China, announced the death of Samuel B. Capen, of Boston, president of the American board of commissioners for foreign missions and a well-known peace advocate.

Twenty-six arbitration treaties with foreign nations were ordered favorably reported by the senate committee on foreign relations. The list includes treaties with Great Britain and Japan.

It is learned that Thomas Nelson Page, present ambassador to Italy, will be named for the vacant ambassadorship in France. William McCombs will, it is said, be offered the post of ambassador to Italy, and will probably accept.

A blazing meteor of large size sped through the sky earthward, striking in the mountains about 15 miles east of Albuquerque, N. M. The meteor hit with a terrific detonation, shaking the city.

The Stanley-Mixon-Hunter bill, fixing a flat passenger rate of 2 cents a mile, to become effective July 1, 1914, on all railroads in South Carolina, was passed to a third reading by the house. The bill was sent to third reading without a roll call.

The president made these nominations for postmasters: Alabama, W. B. Jones, Camden; Randolph St. John, Sylacauga; Georgia, Thomas C. Spivey, Eatonton; W. T. Thurmond, Commerce; Florida, O. K. Paxton, Jr., White Springs.

After two days of conferences with political leaders, Thomas Taggart, Indiana's member of the Democratic national committee, issued a formal statement that he would not be a candidate for the United States senate, but would support Senator Shively for re-election.

Believing that a Confederate soldier should succeed the late Senator Shelby M. Cullom, as resident member of the Lincoln Memorial commission, Senator Ollie James, of Kentucky, asked the president to appoint former United States Senator J. C. S. Blackburn, of Versailles, Ky., to the place. The position pays \$5,000 per annum.

The court of errors and appeals at Trenton, N. J., affirmed the conviction of Daniel A. Dugan, Jr., of Orange, for manslaughter in killing Leo F. McDermott, 14 years old, with his motor car two years ago, and he must now serve a sentence of from five to ten years in the state prison. Dugan is a son of District Judge Daniel A. Dugan, of Orange, who was appointed when Woodrow Wilson was governor of New Jersey.

It is the surmounting of difficulties that makes heroes.—Louis Kossuth.

PLANS TO IMPROVE FLORIDA RIVERS

St. Johns to Connect With Kissimmee

CHANGES IN THE WACCISA

Proposed Amendments to Be Introduced
in the River and Harbor Bill
Are of Interest to the State of
Florida.

Senator Fletcher has introduced in the senate two amendments of Florida's interest, which he proposed shall be incorporated in the river and harbor bill. One amendment provides for a survey of the St. Johns river for a waterway connecting the Kissimmee river in Florida.

The other proposed amendment provides for a survey of the Waccisa river from its source to and through the lower mouth of the canal on Aucilla river, thence to the gulf, in the state of Florida, including an estimate of the cost of a dam across Waccisa river, where it leaves the lower end of Goose Pasture to throw water into Aucilla river, also of damming the small channels at Bird Island, the purpose being to form one channel of a continuous depth of four feet.

Kills Himself at Railway Depot.

Sherrod Warren, while at the Atlantic Coast Line passenger station in High Springs, Fla., without previous exhibition of purpose, snatched a revolver from another man's pocket and shot himself. He died instantly. The young man was born and raised at High Springs and was employed as a boilermaker in the railroad shops at that place. He is survived by a mother. No cause for his rash act has been learned.

Banks Drawing New System.

It was announced at the treasury department, Washington, D. C., that thirty-four of Florida's fifty-one national banks have applied for membership in the new federal reserve system. The application of the Barnett National bank of Jacksonville has been received.

Radium Checks Her Cancer.

Miss Margaret Quayle, daughter of Bishop Quayle, of the Methodist Episcopal church, who is receiving radium treatment at Baltimore, is gaining in strength, according to a statement made by her mother. No information could be obtained as to Congressman Bremner's condition.

Louisiana Bank Looted.

Two masked robbers entered the State Bank of Logansport, La., covered the cashier, Smith Price, and his assistant, T. T. Calhoun, with pistols, then robbed the safe of between \$4,000 and \$5,000. The bank officials were then locked in the vault. The bandits made their escape.

Lies in Rock-hewn Grave.

Without committal services of any church and attended only by his son and six employees, the body of Frank W. Jones, an eccentric millionaire who died at New Hartford, Conn., was buried as he had directed, in a rock-hewn grave on a granite crag crowning the range of hills running through his estate.

Millsaps College Loses \$50,000 by Fire.

One of the three-story main buildings of Millsaps college, occupied by college offices, chapel, literary society halls and classrooms was destroyed by fire at Jackson, Miss. The origin of the fire had not been determined tonight. The loss is estimated at \$50,000, partially insured.

Blair Lee is Seated as Senator.

By a vote of 53 to 14 the senate seated Blair Lee, Democrat, as a senator from Maryland. It was the first contest to be voted upon by the senate coming up under the new direct elections amendment. Mr. Lee immediately took the oath of office. He succeeds Senator Jackson, Republican.

Sudden Death Comes to Frank Dibrell.

Frank Dibrell, aged 55, for nine years comptroller of Tennessee, suddenly became ill with colic and died. He was widely known in the south, and was at one time state senator.